

GOVS GUIDE TO CHOOSING A MAJOR

Choosing a major can be daunting, but it doesn't have to be. External factors, like uncertainty about career prospects or being overwhelmed by options, can complicate your decision. Internal struggles, such as doubts about your choices or conflicts between personal values and salary expectations, add to the challenge. Additionally, outside influences, like parents' opinions, can clash with your dreams, especially if you have many interests and don't know how to narrow them down. This guide helps you navigate your journey to find a path that aligns with your passions.

WHAT STEPS DO I TAKE TO HELP ME CHOOSE A MAJOR?

1. SELF-REFLECTION

- *What Excites You?* Dive into your hobbies and interests. What truly ignites your curiosity?
- *What Are Your Strengths?* Reflect on your academic prowess, problem-solving skills, and creative talents.
- *What Impact Do You Want To Create?* Think about your values, and how you'd like to make a mark in the world.

2. EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS

- *Research A Variety of Majors.* Explore fields ranging from STEM to humanities to business – there's a world out there!
- *Connect With People.* Network with professionals, alumni, and current students to gather valuable insights.
- *Utilize Career Advising.* The Career Success Center is a treasure trove of guidance and resources to help you on your journey.

3. CONSIDER YOUR FUTURE GOALS

- *Short-Term Aspirations.* What immediate goals do you have, like internships or volunteer positions?
- *Long-Term Visions.* Picture your dream job, the lifestyle you crave, and the change you want to effect in the world.
- *Stay Flexible.* Keep in mind that your career path can shift as new opportunities arise.

4. PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- *Course Requirements.* Investigate the specific courses and prerequisites you'll need for your chosen major.
- *Job Market Outlook.* Look into job prospects in your field, including potential salaries and growth opportunities.
- *Financial Factors.* Assess the cost associated with tuition, books, and other related expenses.

5. TAKE ACTION

- *Begin With Exploratory Courses.* Enroll in a variety of classes to uncover your true interests.
- *Seek Mentorship.* Build relationships with professors and mentors who can offer you advice and insights.
- *Be Open To Change.* Keep in mind, it's perfectly okay to switch your major if something feels like a better fit.

Remember, your major is just one piece of the puzzle. Your experiences, skills, and networking will hugely influence your path to success. Enjoy the journey, trust your instincts, and embrace the adventure ahead. By following these steps and seeking support, you'll be well on your way to making a thoughtful choice about your major and embarking on a fulfilling academic and professional journey. Click [*Exploring Majors, Minors, and Concentrations*](#) on the Career Success Center webpage to look all Austin Peay State University has to offer.